



# **-GODDARD- POLICE DEPT.**

[www.goddardkansas.us/police](http://www.goddardkansas.us/police)

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## **Elder Abuse signs to look out for**

### **What is elder abuse?**

- As elders become more physically frail, they're less able to stand up to bullying and or fight back if attacked. Unscrupulous people like to take advantage of the elderly either physically, mentally or financially. In the United States alone, more than a half million reports of abuse against elderly Americans reach authorities, and millions more case go unreported.

### **Different types of elder abuse**

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect or abandonment by caregivers
- Financial exploitation
- Healthcare fraud and abuse

### **Signs and symptoms of elder abuse**

- At first, you might not recognize or take seriously signs of elder abuse. They may appear to be symptoms of dementia or signs of the elderly person's frailty — or caregivers may explain them to you that way. In fact, many of the signs and symptoms of elder abuse do overlap with symptoms of mental deterioration, but that doesn't mean you should dismiss them on the caregiver's say-so.

### **General signs of abuse**

The following are warning signs of some kind of elder abuse:

1. Frequent arguments or tension between the caregiver and the elderly person
2. Changes in personality or behavior in the elder

### **Preventing elder abuse and neglect**

Preventing elder abuse means doing three things:

1. Listening to seniors and their caregivers
2. Intervening when you suspect elder abuse
3. Educating others about how to recognize and report elder abuse

## **Reporting Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of Adult or a Child**

Reports of Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of an Adult or Child may be made to the Kansas Protection Report Center online at this website or by calling: 800-922-5330

If there is an emergency situation, contact the Goddard Police Department or 911. The Police department is here to assist with any questions if you even expect abuse and its always better to call and check, then to let it go unreported.

Detective A. Albert